

BROKER THORNE IS INDICTED AS FORGER

Accused of Elaborate Frauds in Getting Cash for Bogus Mortgage.

HUNT NOW NATIONWIDE

Richard Van Wyck Thorne, the mortgage broker and real estate operator of 150 Broadway, who has been missing since December 16, has been indicted. A general alarm was issued yesterday calling on the police of the country to arrest and hold him for forgery and grand larceny.

In a letter sent to Gilbert H. Montague, a lawyer of 40 Wall street, who brought the case to the attention of the District Attorney, Thorne confessed, it is said, to having defrauded Mr. Montague by inducing him to loan money on a forged mortgage. In the same letter Thorne wrote that he had gone West on a hunting trip and might meet with a fatal accident. Norman W. Kerngood of 42 Broadway, Thorne's lawyer, who believed the letter, believes the missing man has committed suicide.

The total amount of Mr. Montague's loss is \$22,000. He received a payment of \$5,000 from Mrs. Thorne when she heard his story. The charge against Thorne is based on only one transaction, however. This was a \$5,000 loan he obtained from Mr. Montague on December 16, 1914, on a mortgage on property at 2526 Broadway owned by the Eikon Realty Corporation.

High Standing as a Shield.

According to the information on which the indictment is based, Thorne committed forgery and was not suspected because he had high standing as a mortgage broker, and many wealthy clients and employed several smaller brokers. It is alleged that his scheme of operations was to induce some one anything that has come to light in some time.

Evidence presented to the Grand Jury indicated that not only were bonds and mortgages forged, but that the title policies of a local title company were also forged. It is alleged that one sheet of an old policy was used with substituted entries and several printed sheets added, purporting to be a description of the title. The seal of the County Clerk's office, the stamp of the Register of Deeds, even the fee stamps, were forged. It was charged, the only genuine thing, it was alleged, was the appraisal Thorne got from a real estate firm of the foremost standing.

Mr. Montague grew suspicious when Thorne failed to pay \$150 interest on December 15. He got in touch with Thorne immediately. Mrs. Thorne made a frantic effort to save her husband. It was she who returned to Mr. Montague \$2,000 of the \$22,000 involved in Thorne's transactions with Thorne and even offered him bonds in her own name. These were accepted.

Wrote Letter About Train. The note which Mr. Kerngood delivered to Mr. Montague was mailed on a west-bound train and was written on stationery of the New York Central Railroad.

The next day Mr. Montague commenced a thorough search and found two more unsatisfactory mortgages. He immediately notified the District Attorney's office. While detectives were endeavoring to look for Thorne, his case was laid before the Grand Jury. On the evidence presented the indictment was found charging first degree forgery, grand larceny and conspiracy to defraud.

Mr. Montague made the following statement last night: "All dealings of Thorne with me or my office previous to the irregular transactions just discovered appear, after thorough investigation, to have been perfectly regular. In order to accomplish these irregular transactions bonds, mortgages, corporate seals, certificates of the register of deeds, certificates of title, closing certificates and title policies of a local title company all had to be forged and numerous individuals had to be impersonated. Fortunately, so far as concerns all transactions with me or my office, the loss falls solely upon me and, beyond the amount for which partial restitution has already been made, are being borne by the State of New York. Mr. Montague and the detectives have made every effort to ascertain if Thorne had accomplices. It was said yesterday that in his letter he absolved every one of complicity and that there for no accomplices had been indicated. Several persons who have had dealings with Thorne, however, have telephoned Mr. Montague saying that they were investigating the transactions.

The police circular issued yesterday describes Thorne as 46 years old, 5 feet 10 inches in height, brown hair and eyes, slightly bald, with a mole on the left cheek. A photograph was also sent out. At Thorne's home, 120 East Sixty-fourth street, it was said yesterday that Mrs. Thorne had left the city so far as could be learned, she had not gone to the country place on Duck Island, near Northport, which she owns.

SEEKS RIGHT TO SEE SON.

W. W. Brooks, Jr., Gets Order for Wife to Bring Child to Court.

Henry W. Brooks, Jr., president of the Brooks Audit Company, of 60 Wall street, got an order from Supreme Court Justice Platzer yesterday requiring his wife, Mrs. Lucy C. Brooks, of 601 West 180th street, from whom he has been estranged, to produce their four-year-old son Robert in court so that Justice Platzer may determine which of the parents is entitled to the child's custody. The couple were married in New Jersey on March 29, 1911. Brooks is living at 108 West Seventy-seventh street. He alleges that his conduct "has always been above reproach, that he has been a good, upright man, whose moral character has never been questioned, and that there has never been any question between himself and wife as to 'integrity and morality'."

Since the couple signed a separation agreement on April 1, last Brooks says his wife has refused to permit him to see their son.

"JILTED," SHE ASKS \$50,000.

Widow Brings Suit Against Broker L. E. Whitcher.

Louis E. Whitcher, a broker at 45 Broadway, Stock Exchange member of the firm of Ball & Whitcher when it suspended on November 10, 1911, who lives with his wife at 209 Broadway, was sued in the Supreme Court yesterday for \$50,000 damages for breach of promise by Mrs. Olive O. Creighton. The complaint in the case has not been drawn, but Mr. Whitcher admitted yesterday that the action was for breach of promise, and said that he had consulted the District Attorney. He said that Mrs. Creighton, who is a widow, had through a telephone receiver at him when she called at his office and demanded \$2,500, and then telephoned to his wife. Mr. Whitcher said he finally told the District Attorney not to make an inquiry, as he would prove his innocence at the trial of Mrs. Creighton's suit.

OSBORNE INDICTMENT IS RUMOR FOR TO-DAY

White Plains Report Says Grand Jury Has Finished Its Sing Sing Inquiry and Is Ready to Act Against Warden.

White Plains, N. Y., Dec. 27.—It was reported to-night on good authority that the Grand Jury which has been investigating Sing Sing conditions under the management of Warden Osborne would vote to-morrow morning on the question of indicting the warden for dereliction of duty, misdemeanor and on several other counts.

Credence is given to this report because this afternoon when Huntington W. Merchant, counsel for Mr. Osborne, asked Assistant District Attorney Fallon if the warden could produce any more witnesses Mr. Fallon replied: "I have been instructed by the Grand Jury to say that it does not desire to hear any more witnesses pro or con."

"Does that mean that the Grand Jury is about finished?" the assistant prosecutor was asked.

Yes, about through," was his answer. The decision of the Grand Jury not to hear any further testimony was brought about by the request of Mr. Osborne that he be allowed to send four convicts from the prison to testify in contradiction to the statements of other prisoners on which it is alleged an indictment will probably be found.

All the witnesses heard to-day were in the interest of Warden Osborne and the workings of the Mutual Welfare League and honor court. They were Warden Hattigan of the Auburn prison, the Rev. Dr. Davidson of the Jewish Theological Seminary of Washington Heights, Benjamin Feiler, an instructor in the knitting shop at Sing Sing prison; Clifford H. Harmon, who is interested in prison reform, and Principal Keeper Fred Dorner.

Warden Hattigan, it is understood, told of the Mutual Welfare League improving conditions at Auburn, but, it is said, he knew little of actual moral conditions at Sing Sing.

The Grand Jury was in session nearly five hours to-day and just before adjournment District Attorney Weeks and his two assistants, Fallon and Ferris, entered the Grand Jury room carrying several law books. Mr. Weeks, after the jurors had left for their homes, was asked:

"Will the jury end its labors to-morrow?"

"I cannot say."

"Has an indictment been voted upon?"

"Not that I know of."

ATLANTIC CITY MAYOR \$30,000 GEM ROBBERY FAVORS 'GOOD BOOZE' MYSTERY DEEPENS

Answers Revivalists Who Seek to Convert Him—For a Sensible Sunday.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Dec. 27.—Prayer meetings for Mayor William Riddle of this city are being held daily in the Young Men's Christian Association and in the thirteen Protestant churches which will participate in the Stough revival campaign, opening here next Sunday. The Mayor says he appreciates the attention.

"The fact that so many people are praying for me," he said, "I received by me with humility and gratitude. I never knew before that they cared so much for me."

Mayor Riddle was asked if he had been correctly quoted in saying that he was in favor of a "wide open Atlantic City."

"I favor a sane but sensible Sunday," he said. "The saloons should be allowed to be open at 1 o'clock Sunday afternoon. The churches should have Sunday morning and let the others have the afternoon."

"I have been correctly quoted in some of the things I have said, but there has been a great deal written that was false. In one account the word 'hell' and 'nigger' were purposely interpolated to hurt my good name."

"I said I had just learned to play crap. The negroes who come into my office have taught me and I find it a very interesting game."

"Then my remark about booze being 25 per cent. of life was all twisted. I said that life should be 50 per cent. booze, 25 per cent. music and 25 per cent. love. I have been misunderstood. I said that statement in a public address, but I wish I had said something about good books. Still, I guess they are included in home happiness."

Church people identified with the evangelist campaign feel that Mayor Riddle is the chief obstacle to a sweeping success. For this reason it has been decided that the Mayor must be converted at any cost.

FENNIMOR TIRED OF TOMBS.

Will Be Sentenced Next Week on Manslaughter Charge.

Frank Fennimore, who was a saloonkeeper in Brooklyn until he came to the Second Assembly district in Manhattan to mix himself up in the political fight between Elmer F. Foley and Michael J. Rofrano, and who hired Gastano Montemagno to kill Michael Galmari, a Foley lieutenant, last March, will be sentenced, probably next week, to serve a term for manslaughter.

He was arraigned yesterday before Judge Rosalsky in General Sessions on an old charge of having a revolver in his possession, an offense for which he was arrested the very day Galmari was murdered, and he told Judge Rosalsky that he was becoming dissatisfied with life in the Tombs and was anxious to serve out whatever sentence was to be imposed upon him. Assistant District Attorney Brannan told him his case would be considered next week.

Fennimore was an important link in the chain of evidence by which the State found the mixer of Galmari and by which an indictment for murder was found against former Deputy Street Cleaning Commissioner Rofrano, who has been a fugitive for many months. An appeal is waiting consideration in the case of Montemagno.

600 LOAVES GIVEN AWAY.

Line in Prince Street Quickly Takes Extra Allowance.

More than 300 men and women were in the bread line yesterday when Dick Bright and Tom Henry opened the doors of the SUN free bread depot, 2 Prince street, just off the Bowery, at 2 o'clock. In the first twenty minutes they gave away 400 loaves, and early in the afternoon the supply of 600 loaves, which was 100 more than usual, was exhausted. The fame of the bread line has spread far, and there were many yesterday who had walked for miles to get a loaf. The depot will keep pace with the demand, and as the line lengthens the supply will be increased. The line yesterday was a babel of tongues and picturesque costumes. Even a Hindu, who had been walking the streets for several days, was one of the applicants.

By the way, is a steady repeater, again contributed a dollar to the bread line fund yesterday.

RESCUE CREW WAITS AT FIRE.

Smoke So Thick It Is Feared That Firemen Will Need Aid.

So dense was the smoke from a fire in the basement of the loft building at 67 West Twenty-third street yesterday that Deputy Chief Smoky Joe Martin refused to permit his men to work without the aid of the rescue crew. When the crew arrived ropes were tied about the men's waists so that if the oxygen helmets were not in perfect working order they could signal for help, and be pulled out. The fire started in an unknown manner among some excelsior and boxes stored in the cellar. The girl workers marched out of the building without panic. Fire Commissioner Adamson was present to see his men at work.

COST OF NEW STEPS HASTENS DANCERS

Error of Flat Rate Instead of Per Head Sends Masters Home Quickly.

IDEA SHOCKS MAURICE

It all began because Maurice, having paid more attention to the intricacies of the fox trot and the tango than to the intricacies of the English language, wrote "flat rate" instead of "per head" when he sent his letter to President Tom McDougal of the American National Association of Masters of Dancing telling what his terms would be for teaching fifty members or so of the association the newest steps in the terpsichorean industry.

The fifty chanced to New York from the various cities where they live in the joyous belief that they were going to get a real bargain in Pas Ballot, Jette Bourne, Pas Jetties and other spring samples from Maurice's stock. They fox trotted and waited through the Sunday session of the school in the same pleasant belief, and Tom McDougal was a good natured party and had lost some of his whiskers in the effort. But these alarmist reports were silenced by a burst of joyous singing from within.

There was a sound of dancing feet, and down the room and into the corridor swept the fifty led by Maurice and Col. Kretlow, with his whiskers all there and floating airily about him. Miss Jones of Boston, all of them treading the measures of the tango to the tune, sung by themselves, of "For he's a jolly good fellow."

No accurate account of the secret session could be obtained, but it was noted that a certain persistence clung next time they met. McDougal's daughter, while Maurice was radiant, eight-year-old Dorothy Strong, the youngest fox trotter at the meeting, was in the corridor, and in the exuberance of his heart Maurice seized her and put her through a potpourri of his best steps.

A tactless reporter inquired if the trouble about the terms had been settled. Maurice's artist soul looked through his eyes in pained surprise.

"Should an artist think about terms?" he asked plaintively. "It is the discussion about standardization of steps you mean. Is it not, my friend? We had a little talk about that, yes, and it is pleasantly arranged. You heard us singing? What I wished to impress upon them was that names, Maurice's names, should be applied to all the steps, Maurice's steps, and we should not speak of the fourth movement of the tango or the first movement of the fox trot, but use the names when we speak of them."

"And if we meet every three months as we should, everybody all over the United States will know at once what to do when a dancing master calls out 'Pas Coufer' or 'Rond de Jombe' or 'Pas Jette.' That is what these meetings are to accomplish, and who should talk about terms?"

McDougal Takes the Blame.

President McDougal took all the blame upon himself.

"I read Maurice's letter wrong, that's all," he said. "I thought it was better to tell the members about it and I did. It was a bit of a shock, but they came up to the scratch, and it's all right now." But a certain melancholy hovered over the meeting, and occasionally there were allusions.

It was understood on Sunday that the meeting was to last four days, but according to Mr. McDougal yesterday, the members felt they had about enough. He did not say whether the misunderstanding about "flat rate" and "per head" had anything to do with this. He declared that Maurice was a wonderful teacher, and they meant to have him next time they met.

MUSICA FEARS LONG TERM.

Refers to Have Judge Swann's Successor to Sentence Him.

After being locked in the Tombs for two years and nine months on his plea of guilty to grand larceny in the first degree Philip Musica was arraigned before Judge Swann in General Sessions yesterday on a charge of grand larceny in the second degree. Judge Swann said that the term would be not more than ten and not less than five years in prison, less the time already served, or he would defer sentence until January 17 and let his successor pass on the case. Judge Swann became District Attorney January 1.

The sentence promised was the maximum, and after a hurried consultation with his counsel Musica decided to take his chances with some other Judge and went back to the Tombs.

SUES COMMANDER EVA BOOTH.

Boy Asks \$20,000 for Being Hit by Salvationist's Auto.

Commander Evangeline Booth of the Salvation Army was sued in the Supreme Court yesterday for \$20,000 for injuries suffered by Isidor Friedman, 14 years old, who was struck by an automobile on Seventh avenue and 140th street on September 29 last.

The complaint also names Richard Griffiths as a defendant and alleges that the car, which was owned and controlled by Griffiths and Miss Booth, was being driven carelessly.

MRS. BELMONT WRITES A SUFFRAGE OPERETTA

Work, of Which the Libretto Is Hers, Is Expected to Bring in \$1,000,000 for the Cause—Performance in February.

Enter Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont into the operatic field.

In collaboration with Miss Elsie Maxwell, formerly of California, later of England, now at the Ritz-Carlton in New York, Mrs. Belmont has written the libretto of an operetta, which will be produced at the Waldorf-Astoria February 18. It is called "Miranda and Her Sisters," and the plot, it is perhaps superfluous to say, revolves around suffrage. Marie Dressler and other personals will take the leading parts, but friends of Mrs. Belmont will walk on in the lesser roles.

Mrs. Belmont's friends will gather at her home, 477 Madison avenue, this afternoon, to hear the book read and to be assigned their parts. None but women should go to hear the book read and to be assigned their parts. None but women should go. The book will be read by Mrs. Belmont, and it is taken it from Marie Dressler, exceedingly clever.

"Miranda and Her Sisters" would be a go anywhere," declared the actress yesterday. "The libretto is really sparkling," Miss Dressler added. "We expect that the operetta will be given all over the United States, and we look for it to bring \$1,000,000 for suffrage. The money is to be used for suffrage charities, and all the poor children who work in mines and factories, the shop girls and factory girls, will benefit."

As Mrs. Belmont is chairman of the New York State branch of the Congressional Union for Women Suffrage, it is probable that the charity will be dispensed through that organization.

The plot as outlined by the author is well adapted to give many of Mrs. Belmont's friends an opportunity to appear. "Miranda and Her Sisters" are daughters of Mrs. Pepper of Oshkosh, Wis. (Mrs. Pepper part to be taken by Miss Dressler), and they are, with the exception of Miranda, ambitious. One of them is musical and wants to go to the Paris Conservatoire; another dances and thinks she can walk into fame with her feet, and so on. Has it been mentioned that "Miranda and Her Sisters" is intended by the author as a satire on society? Well, it is.

The seven daughters go to Paris and various other places in the pursuit of their ambition, but the audience hears nothing of Miranda, the eighth. One hears that Miranda is in distress. The fact is that Miranda is working for votes for women, but Mother Pepper would die rather than let her friends know it.

Act IV, the climax, shows Mother Pepper having a birthday party in Oshkosh, to which she has bidden all her daughters, with the exception of Miranda. They have come from Paris and brought all their friends. And then Miranda arrives, for being a dear, sweet girl, she remembers mother's birthday and comes to celebrate it, though not asked. And she also brings her friends—an entire suffrage parade with floats and banners. And right there she delivers a suffrage speech which is so eloquent that her mother, her seven sisters and all their friends are converted and sign the suffrage pledge.

Miss Maxwell, who wrote the music, includes in the numbers a march which she wrote in England and gave to the Red Cross there. It is played in the recruiting stations and the clothing manufacturers yesterday in the hope of averting a strike in that trade. The union men gave the manufacturers until the first of the year to accede to demands.

General Secretary Zuckerman of the Hat and Cap Makers International Union said that 4,000 cupmakers would be on strike in small contracting shops in a few weeks.

Fifteen thousand men and girl millinery workers won a general advance in wages yesterday. The employers' concession averted a general strike.

BILTMORE EMPLOYEES' DANCE.

First Entertainment and Ball a Decided Success.

The first annual entertainment and ball given for the employees of the Biltmore Hotel was held last night at Terrace Garden. There were about 1,000 members of the hotel force and their families present and the occasion was much on the order of a large Christmas party. Following a vaudeville entertainment there was dancing and supper.

NEW PARK FOR BROOKLYN.

Pratt Institute Will Give Block as Recreation Place.

It was announced yesterday at the offices of the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn that the block uniting on De Kalb avenue, between Ryerson and Hall streets, opposite the Institute's library, would be made into a public recreation park. Buildings on the property have been removed. It is expected that the park will be completed before summer.

Our "Forefathers' Cloth" is a Hit.

It's a faithful reproduction of the cloth worn by the sturdy pioneers of 1620. Woven of wool from the same county in England that produced it in the 17th century.

Dyed in the same rich primitive tones—butternut brown, olive green and grey. They're among the hand-somest of our men's suits this season.

"Scotch Mists" defy both cold and wet.

Rainproofed overcoats of handsome Scotch chevils, lots of them made with raglan shoulders.

Everything men and boys wear.

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ROGERS PEET COMPANY

Broadway at 13th St. "The Four Corners" Fifth Ave. at 41st St.

Kennedy

Now Comes New Year's Shoes for Winter Sports

Russet Golf Shoes, \$4.98

Basket Ball Shoes, \$3.50

Dancing Pumps, \$3.98

Hockey Shoes, \$3.98

Russet Golf Shoes

Mich. Dark Mahogany \$2.97 & \$3.98

Worth \$4 and \$5

Newest Lasts

Horseshoe Shoes, \$4.85 & \$5.85

Sold by custom Bootmakers at \$8 It's a "Cordovan," the Smartest Leather.

Hat Department Entire Basement Floor

Dress Silk Hats \$3.90 & \$4.80

Correct in Style Surpassing in Value Worth \$5 and \$6

Cape for Motor, Golf, Skating, etc.

75,000 GIRLS FAVOR SHIRTWAIST STRIKE

Big Meeting of Workers Shows Desire to Walk Out to Enforce Demands.

Crowded meetings at Cooper Union and Beethoven Hall last night showed that the sentiment of the unionized shirtwaist makers of the city was in favor of a strike, in which 75,000 girls will be called out.

Both halls were jammed and there were overflow meetings outside. As a result of the meetings demands will be drafted immediately and served upon the manufacturers of shirtwaists. If the demands are refused there will be a national strike, probably early next month.

Manager Solomon Pollockoff of the Ladies' Waist and Dressmakers Local No. 1 of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union was the principal speaker of the Cooper Union meeting. He said that the manufacturers had persistently violated the protocol for the trade, and that the only way to bring them to their senses would be through a strike.

Representatives of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America conferred with representatives of the clothing manufacturers yesterday in the hope of averting a strike in that trade. The union men gave the manufacturers until the first of the year to accede to demands.

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Levisohn Maid Is Robbed.

SCARSDALE, Dec. 27.—Policeman Johnson of Ardsley was notified to-day that an armed footpad had struck a maid employed by Adolph Levisohn, a well-known summer place and had stolen her purse. The robbery was admitted at the Levisohn home, but details were refused.

Spend Your Christmas Money for Diamonds at Macy's

Money well spent is well invested, and to spend the Christmas check on something worth while is a compulsion to the giver.

Every young man desires and looks forward to the time when he can possess a fine gold watch; why not purchase it this year at Macy's?

We carry the well known La Forge and Valentine watches, and most of the other standard makes, the Waltham, Elgin, Howard, Illinois and many Swiss watches. All of our watches are covered by a guarantee, except those with Swiss cylinder movements.

For the young women there are diamond rings and diamonds set in any piece of jewelry preferred. Diamond jewelry is not only an asset as a possession but it is an especially safe and convenient medium for investment.

Macy's Diamond Jewelry has become recognized as authoritative in style and satisfactorily complete in selection. We have a large assortment of La Vallieres, bracelets, brooches, rings and a complete line of solitaire rings in stones of different weights.

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